भारतीय चाय व्यापार निगम के कर्मचारियों को सामान्य भविष्य निधि की बकाया राशियों का भुगतान किया जाना

4241. **श्री चौधरी हरि सिंह** : क्या प्रधान मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि :

(क) क्या सरकार ने भारतीय चाय व्यापार निगम के प्रबंधन के अंतर्गत आने वाले चाय बागानों के कर्मचारियों को सामान्य भविष्य निधि/उपदान की बकाया राशियों का भुगतान करने हेतु कोई कदम उठाए हैं;

(ख) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है; और

(ग) यदि नहीं, तो इसके क्या कारण हैं ?

नागरिक आपूर्ति, उपभोक्ता मामले और सार्वजनिक वितरण मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री और वाणिज्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री का अतिरिक्त प्रभार (श्री कमालुद्दीन अहमद) : (क) से (ग) चाय कंपनी (तरुण चाय एकक्रें का अधिग्रहण और स्थानान्तरण) अधिनियम, 1985 के प्रावधानों के अंतर्गत नियुक्त भुगतान आयुक्त ने विभिन्न श्रेणियों के दावों के निपटान के लिए कार्यभार ग्रहण कर लिया है । इन दावों में टी ट्रेडिंग कारपोरेशन ऑफ इण्डिया लिमिटेड के प्रबंधन के अंतर्गत आने वाले राष्ट्रीयकृत तरुण चाय बागानों के कर्मचारियों को इन बागानों के राष्ट्रीयकरण से पूर्व देय कर्मचारी भविष्य निधि/ग्रैच्यूटी के बकाया के दावे शामिल हैं ।

British Businessmen interest in promoting export of Indian products

4242. SHRI H. HANUMANTHAPPA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a number of British businessmen had shown keen interest in joining hands with India for developing marketing, infrastructure and technology for promoting export of Indian products worldwise;

(b) whether they also expressed reservations in regard to implementation of the policy, procedural bottlenecks in relation to the disinvestment of capital since these were repeatedly mentioned by them to the high powered Indian delegation which visited that country recently; and

(c) if so, what is the reaction of Government thereto whether UK firms also express keen interest in investing in India if so, the reaction of Governement thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) and (b) Indian and British businessmen have through the recent launch of the Indo-British Partnership Initiative expressed interest in promoting bilateral trade, investment and economic cooperation. Businessmen on both sides highlighted policy and procedural issues having a bearing on such cooperation during the course of a recent visit to Britain of an Indian business delegation.

(c) Such issues are sought to be addressed as a part of the overall liberalisation process. There is a positive trend in British investment in India.

Crop Size fixed by the Tobacco Board

4243. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Tobacco Board in the meeting held at Guntur on 24th July, had decided the crop size;

(b) if so, what are the factors that were taken into consideration, while fixing the crop size; and

(c) whether the Tobacco-Board held discussions with traders, exporters and cigarette manufacturers, while fixing the crop size; and if so, what are the details of the discussions held ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) and (b) In its meeting held on 24-7-93 the Tobacco Board fixed a crop size of 52.68 M. Kgs. for Andhra Pradesh and Maharashtra during the crop year 1993-94 taking into account the large carry-over stock, lack of domestic demand and uncertainty in Russian purchases.

(c) The Tobacco Board held discussions with traders, exporters and cigarette manufacturers. These discussions reveled the domestic requirement as 36.80 M. Kgs, carry-over stock from 1992 & 1993 A. P. crop as 28 M. Kgs. and carry over stock from 1992 Karnataka crop as 12 M. Kgs.

Underpricing of Tobacco

4244. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the unit value realisation of

Tobacco exported to Russia during the last three years;

(b) whether it is a fact that the exporters cut each other and under priced the Tobacco;

(c) if so, what is the total loss of export earnings to the national due to this; and

(d) what steps are being taken to avert this underpricing?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) Unit value realisation of FCV tobacco exported to Russia during the last three years is given below:—

Year	Unit value (Rs./Kg.)
1990-91	32.77
1991-92	39.57
1992-93	66.24

(b) to (d) In a commercial crop like tobacco where factors like international situation and domestic demand are crucial, prices are subject to fluctuations.

Carry over Stock of FCV Tobacco

4245. DR. YELAMANCHILI SIVAJI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) what is the total expected quantity of carry-over stock of F.C.V. Tobacco for the next year, both from Karnataka and Andhra Pradesh, and what is the impact on the market of tobacco during the coming year; and

(b) what steps are being taken to avert the crises?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) The likely carry-over stock of tobacco projected by the Tobacco Board for the next year is about 54 M. Kg. The large carry over stock could result in reduced buyers participation in auctions, lack of competitions in auction floors, storage problems for fresh crops, and reduced bank credit.

(b) Tobacco Board has taken steps to reduce the crop size, not to licence production in black soil regions, advising farmers through publicity not to go for excess/unauthorised plantation, and to help the farmers to switch over to alternate crops.

Tobacco as a Plantation Crop

4246. SHRI V. HANUMANTHA RAO: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is a proposal to declare tobacco a plantation crop and bring all aspects of tobacco, including its export under one Ministry;

(b) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(c) what is the criteria adopted by Government for declaring any crop coming under the definition of a plantation crop?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) to (c) Some of the parameters for plantation crops are long gestation of the crops, exemption from land ceiling Act etc. Tobacco is an annual crop, which is subject to the land ceiling laws. There is no proposal to declare tobacco as a plantation crop.

Proposal for uniting EPZ Units as a Federation

4247. MISS SAROJ KHAPARDE: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether units in the Export Processing Zones (EPZ) in the country propose to unite in a federation; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) and (b) Some units in Export Processing Zones (EPZs) have formed Zone-wise Industries Associations. However, the Government is not aware of the actual formation of any Federation